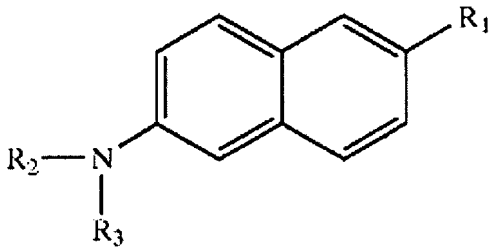
Amendments to the Specification:

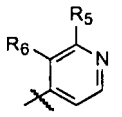
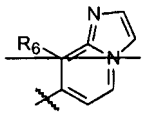
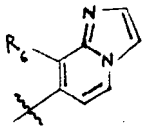
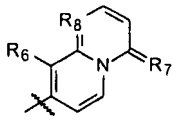
On page 3, lines 2-19, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

"The present invention provides methods for labeling structures, including beta-amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles, *in vivo* and *in vitro*, and comprises contacting a compound of formula (I):



(I)

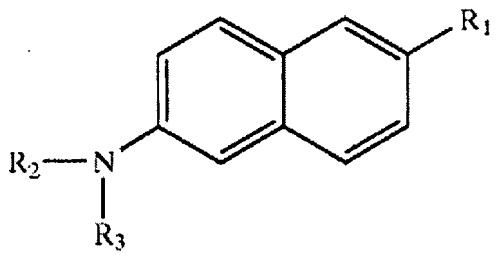
with mammalian tissue. In formula (I), R_1 is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl R_4, -C=C(CN)$_2$-alkyl, -C=C(CN)$_2$-alkylenyl-R_4,




and

;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl and substituted aryl; R_5 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -NH2, -OH, -SH, -NH-alkyl, -NHR$_4$, -NH-alkylenyl-R_4, -O-alkyl, -O-alkylenyl-R_4, -S-alkyl, and -S-alkylenyl-R_4; R_6 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -CN, -COOH, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-halogen, -C(O)NH$_2$, -C(O)NH-alkyl, -C(O)NH-alkylenyl-R_4; R_7 is a radical selected from the group consisting of O, NH, and S; and R_8 is N[[~~, O or S~~]].

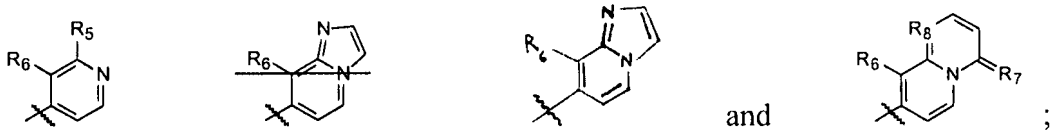
On page 4, line 18 to page 5, line 12, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

" In still another embodiment, the invention is directed to a composition comprising a compound of formula (I):



(I)

where R_1 is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl-R_4, -C =C(CN)$_2$-alkyl, -C=C(CN)$_2$-alkylenyl-R_4,

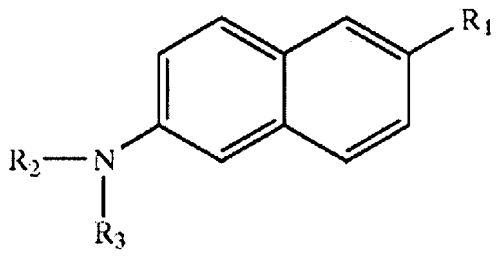


and ;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl and substituted aryl; R_5 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -NH_2, -OH, -SH, -NH-alkyl, -NHR_4, NH-alkylenyl-R_4, -O-alkyl, -O-alkylenyl-R_4, -S-alkyl, and -S-alkylenyl-R_4; R_6 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -CN, -COOH, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-halogen, -C(O)NH_2, -C(O)NH-alkyl, -C(O)NH-alkylenyl-R_4; R_7 is a radical selected from the group consisting of O, NH, and S; R_8 is N[[~~, O or S~~]]; R_2 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl and alkylenyl-R_5; and R_3 is alkylenyl-R_5[,]; ~~and R_5 is selected from the group consisting of -OH, -OTs, halogen, spiperone, spiperone ketal, and spiperone-3-yl,~~ or R_2 and R_3 together form a heterocyclic ring, optionally substituted with at least one radical selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, OH, OTs, halogen, alkylenyl-R_5 carbonyl, spiperone, spiperone ketal and spiperone-3-yl. One or more of the hydrogen, halogen or carbon atoms can optionally be replaced with a radiolabel.

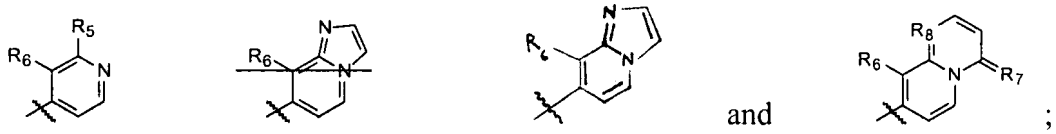
On page 7, line 19 through page 8, line 10, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

"The present invention is directed to methods for labeling structures such as β-amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles *in vivo* and *in vitro*. The methods all involve contacting a compound of formula (I):



(I)

with mammalian tissue. In formula (I), R_1 is selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl-R_4 -C=C(CN)$_2$-alkyl, -C=C(CN)$_2$-alkylenyl-R_4,



and ;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl and substituted aryl. R_5 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -NH_2, -OH, -SH, -NH-alkyl, -NHR_4, -NH-alkylenyl-R_4, -O-alkyl, -O-alkylenyl-R_4, -S-alkyl, and -S-alkylenyl-R_4. R_6 is a radical selected from the group consisting of -CN, -COOH, -C(O)O-alkyl, -C(O)O-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-alkylenyl-R_4, -C(O)-halogen, -C(O)NH_2, -C(O)NH-alkyl, -C(O)NH-alkylenyl-R_4. R_7 is a radical selected from the group consisting of O, NH, and S[[.]]; and R_8 is N[[~~, O or S~~]].